

11-16-1993

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### Recommended Citation

"Fitz Receives Two Community Honors" (1993). *News Releases*. 8091.  
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# *The University of Dayton*

## *News Release*

Nov. 16, 1993

Contact: Teri Rizvi

### **FITZ RECEIVES TWO COMMUNITY HONORS**

DAYTON, Ohio -- Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., president of the University of Dayton, will be one of four Ohioans honored by Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Dayton on Nov. 22.

It's the second community award Fitz has received this month: The Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Foundation named him the 1993 St. Elizabeth Medical Center "Friend of the Year" on Nov. 10. The award is presented annually to someone who demonstrates the Franciscan spirit of caring.

Besides Fitz, Ritter Collett, David Holmes and Gerald Faust Jr. will be honored by Big Brothers/Big Sisters for exemplifying outstanding personal characteristics and a strong sense of community involvement.

Fitz has been president of the University of Dayton, the eighth largest Catholic university in the country, since 1979. Approximately half of UD's nearly 70,000 alumni have received their diplomas from Fitz. As president, he has focused the University community on the challenge to learn, lead and serve. Under his leadership, the University has worked to develop a distinctive general education curriculum, strengthen targeted graduate programs and take a leadership role in advanced technology education and research.

Fitz currently serves as chair of the Montgomery County Child Protection Task Force, Community Affairs Committee, Miami Valley Research Institute, Ohio Aerospace Institute and Environmental Technology Task Force of the Ohio Science and Technology Commission; vice chair of the Youth and Family Collaborative; and co-chair of the Advanced Integrated Manufacturing (AIM) Center.

He is one of eight college and university presidents who advise the seven bishops of

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the Committee to Implement the Apostolic Constitution *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*. That committee, established by the U.S. bishops to implement the 1990 papal document on Catholic universities, this year issued to bishops and college presidents a draft document, "Proposed Ordinances for Catholic Colleges and Universities in the United States." Fitz is collaborating on the ordinance dealing with the resolution of disputes between church authority and a Catholic college or university.

Additionally, he is working to form the Greater Dayton Roundtable as a community forum to address systematically the needs of children and families and to improve race relations.

Fitz is an Akron native.